

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JULY 30, 1856.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. COLLAMER made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany Bill S. 417.]

The Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, to whom was referred the petition of Jacob Hall, make the following report:

Jacob Hall, in 1854, contracted to convey the mail from Independence, Missouri, to Santa Fé, New Mexico, for four years, at the compensation of \$10,990 per annum. The Indians on this route were then at peace. Soon after, they became hostile, and have continued in that state with each other and making depredations on the whites to this time. Mr. Hall has performed his service with great efficiency, but has been compelled, in consequence of this condition of the Indians, very greatly to increase his force for the service at greatly increased expense, to an amount, as shown, of much more than double his compensation, and has suffered great loss.

In 1855, Congress, in view of these considerations, increased his pay to \$22,000 for the year ending August, 1855, at the same time providing that the Postmaster General might, with the consent of said Hall, annul his contract. The difficulties continuing, said Hall applied to the Postmaster General to annul the contract. But he, in view of the public service, declined to do it, and said Hall has continued, with great difficulty and expense, to perform the service.

The committee are of opinion that said Hall should receive for this service and for his losses the same amount for the year ending August 18, 1856, as was allowed him by Congress for the previous year and on the same condition; and they report a bill accordingly.